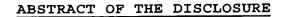
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A spinneret steam blanketing system for blanketing the face of a spinneret with gas. The system includes a steam distribution ring surrounding a filament array, where the steam distribution ring abuts the spin head and is removably mounted to said spin head. The steam distribution ring is removed and the face of the spinneret may be wiped clean, without the need for removing and replacing the spin pack.